~PHILIPPIANS - LETTER TO THE (776)

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- A book of the Christian Greek Scriptures written by the apostle Paul to the congregation in the city of Philippi in the province of Macedonia, a congregation that Paul had established about 50 C.E, in the course of his second missionary tour.

.. When And Where Written

- The letters internal evidence indicates it was written during Paul's first imprisonment in Rome. In it he speaks of all the Praetorian Guard as knowing the reason for his being in bonds, and he sends greetings from those of the household of Caesar.
- So that my bonds have become public knowledge in association with Christ among all the Praetorian Guard and all the rest. (Philippians 1:13)
- All the holy ones, but especially those of the household of Caesar, send you their greetings. (Philippians 4:22)
- Paul's first imprisonment in Rome is generally considered to have taken place about 59-61 C.E. Several events occurred between Paul's arrival in Rome and his decision to write to the Philippians. Epaphroditus had made the trip from Philippi, had worked to assist Paul, and had fallen very sick.
- The Philippians, some 1,000 kilometers (600 miles) distant, had received news of his sickness. Now Epaphroditus had recovered, and Paul was sending him back with the letter. So the letter was written about 60 or 61 C.E.

Background And Reasons For Writing

The Philippian congregation had shown great love and regard for Paul. Shortly after his visit to them, the congregation had generously

sent him material provisions during his stay of several weeks in nearby Thessalonica.

- In fact, you Philippians, also know that at the start of declaring the Good News, when I departed from Macedonia, not a congregation took a share with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you alone. (Philippians 4:15)
- Because, even in Thessalonica, you sent something to me both once and a second time for my need. (Philippians 4:16)
- Later, when the brothers in Jerusalem entered into a period of intense persecution and were in need of material help, the Christians in Philippi, themselves very poor and undergoing a great test of affliction, had nevertheless demonstrated a readiness to contribute even beyond their ability.
- Paul so much appreciated their fine attitude that he cited them as an example to the other congregations.
- Now we let you know, brothers, about the undeserved kindness of God that has been bestowed upon the congregations of Macedonia. (2 Corinthians 8:1)
- That during a great test under affliction their abundance of joy and their deep poverty made the riches of their generosity abound. (2 Corinthians 8:2)
- For according to their actual ability, yes, I testify, beyond their actual ability this was. (2 Corinthians 8:3)
- While they of their own accord kept begging us with much entreaty for the privilege of kindly giving and for a share in the ministry destined for the holy ones. (2 Corinthians 8:4)
- And not merely as we had hoped, but first they gave themselves to the Lord and to us through God's will. (2 Corinthians 8:5)
- This led us to encourage Titus that, just as he had been the one to initiate it among you, so too he should complete this same kind giving on your part. (2 Corinthians 8:6)
- They were also very active and busy in preaching the Good News, so they apparently had not been closely in touch with Paul for a time.

But now, in his need in prison bonds, they not only sent material gifts so that Paul had an abundance but also dispatched their personal envoy Epaphroditus, a man valuable to them.

- This zealous brother courageously gave assistance to Paul, even endangering his own life. Consequently, Paul commends him highly to the congregation.
- However, I consider it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, but your envoy and private servant for my need. (Philippians 2:25)
- Since he is longing to see all of you and is depressed because you heard he had fallen sick. (Philippians 2:26)
- Yes, indeed, he fell sick nearly to the point of death, but God had mercy on him, in fact, not only on him, but also on me, that I should not get grief upon grief. (Philippians 2:27)
- Therefore with the greater haste I am sending him, that on seeing him you may rejoice again and I may be the more free from grief. (Philippians 2:28)
- Therefore give him the customary welcome in the Lord with all joy, and keep holding men of that sort dear. (Philippians 2:29)
- Because on account of the Lords work he came quite near to death, exposing his soul to danger, that he might fully make up for your not being here to render private service to me. (Philippians 2:30)
- However, I have all things in full and have an abundance. I am filled, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the things from you, a sweet-smelling odor, an acceptable sacrifice, well-pleasing to God. (Philippians 4:18)
- Paul expresses confidence that, in harmony with their prayers, he will be released from this imprisonment and will be able to visit them again.
- For I know this will result in my salvation through your supplication and a supply of the spirit of Jesus Christ. (Philippians 1:19)

- Indeed, I am confident in the Lord that I myself shall also come shortly. (Philippians 2:24)
- He knows that for him to continue to live is to be useful to them, though he looks longingly forward to the time when Christ will receive him home to himself.
- For in my case to live is Christ, and to die, gain. (Philippians 1:21)
- Now if it be to live on in the flesh, this is a fruitage of my work, and yet which thing to select I do not make known. (Philippians 1:22)
- I am under pressure from these two things, but what I do desire is the releasing and the being with Christ, for this, to be sure, is far better. (Philippians 1:23)
- However, for me to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. (Philippians 1:24)
- So, being confident of this, I know I shall remain and shall abide with all of you for your advancement and the joy that belongs to your faith. (Philippians 1:25)
- Also, if I go my way and prepare a place for you, I am coming again and will receive you home to myself, that where I am you also may be. (John 14:3)
- In the meantime, he hopes to send Timothy, who, more than anyone else available, will genuinely have their interests at heart.
- For my part I am hoping in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you shortly, that I may be a cheerful soul when I get to know about the things pertaining to you. (Philippians 2:19)
- For I have no one else of a disposition like his who will genuinely care for the things pertaining to you. (Philippians 2:20)
- For all the others are seeking their own interests, not those of Christ Jesus. (Philippians 2:21)
- But you know the proof he gave of himself, that like a child with a father he slaved with me in furtherance of the Good News. (Philippians 2:22)

- This, therefore, is the man I am hoping to send just as soon as I have seen how things stand concerning me. (Philippians 2:23)
- The letter breathes love. Paul never withheld commendation where due, nor did he shrink back from giving necessary reproof, but in this case encouragement was the thing needed.
- The congregation had their opponents, workers of injury, who wanted to boast in fleshly connections and in circumcision of the flesh, but it appears that the brothers were not seriously affected or upset.
- Look out for the dogs, look out for the workers of injury, look out for those who mutilate the flesh. (Philippians 3:2)
- So Paul did not have to present strong argument and reproof as, for example, in his letters to the congregations in Galatia and Corinth. The only hint of correction was his exhortation to unity on the part of Euodia and Syntyche.
- Throughout the letter he encourages the Philippian congregation to continue in their fine course seeking greater discernment and getting a sure grip on the Word of life, a stronger faith, and hope in the prize to come.
- There are many fine principles expressed in the letter that provide guidance and encouragement to all Christians. Some of them are;
- ·· Chapter And Verse, Principle
- And this is what I continue praying, that your love may abound yet more and more with accurate knowledge and full discernment. (Philippians 1:9)
- That you may make sure of the more important things, so that you may be flawless and not be stumbling others up to the day of Christ. (Philippians 1:10)
- Make sure of the more important things so as not to stumble others over any matter.
- True, some are preaching the Christ through envy and rivalry, but others also through goodwill. (Philippians 1:15)

- The latter are publicizing the Christ out of love, for they know I am set here for the defense of the Good News. (Philippians 1:16)
- But the former do it out of contentiousness, not with a pure motive, for they are supposing to stir up tribulation for me in my prison bonds. (Philippians 1:17)
- What then? Nothing, except that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is being publicized, and in this I rejoice. In fact, I will also keep on rejoicing. (Philippians 1:18)
- We can rejoice even when the enemies of the truth speak about it contentiously, for this only serves to publicize the truth.
- For I know this will result in my salvation through your supplication and a supply of the spirit of Jesus Christ.
- Prayer by God's servants is effectual.
- Only behave in a manner worthy of the Good News about the Christ, in order, that, whether I come and see you or be absent, I may hear about the things which concern you, that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one soul striving side by side for the faith of the Good News. (Philippians 1:27)
- And in no respect being frightened by your opponents. This very thing is a proof of destruction for them, but of salvation for you, and this indication is from God. (Philippians 1:28)
- Christians unity and courage in the presence of their opponents is a proof from God that he will deliver his servants and destroy his enemies.
- Keep this mental attitude in you that was also in Christ Jesus.(Philippians 2:5)
- Who, although he was existing in God's form, gave no consideration to a seizure, namely, that he should be equal to God. (Philippians 2:6)
- No, but he emptied himself and took a slaves form and came to be in the likeness of men. (Philippians 2:7)

- More than that, when he found himself in fashion as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient as far as death, yes, death on a torture stake. (Philippians 2:8)
- For this very reason also God exalted him to a superior position and kindly gave him the name that is above every other name. (Philippians 2:9)
- So that in the name of Jesus every knee should bend of those in heaven and those on earth and those under the ground. (Philippians 2:10)
- And every tongue should openly acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:11)
- Humility brings exaltation from God.
- Yes, indeed, he fell sick nearly to the point of death, but God had mercy on him, in fact, not only on him, but also on me, that I should not get grief upon grief. (Philippians 2:27)
- God can be thanked for his mercy when one of his faithful servants recovers from an illness.
- At any rate, to what extent we have made progress, let us go on walking orderly in this same routine. (Philippians 3:16)
- To what extent the Christian has made progress, he should continue walking orderly in this same routine in order to receive the prize.
- As for us, our citizenship exists in the heavens, from which place also we are eagerly waiting for a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. (Philippians 3:20)
- Christians should look to the heavens, where their citizenship exists, not to earthly connections.
- Do not be anxious over anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication along with thanksgiving let your petitions be made known to God. (Philippians 4:6)
- And the peace of God that excels all thought will guard your hearts and your mental powers by means of Christ Jesus.

(Philippians 4:7)

- Do not be anxious, in every situation submit your petitions to God, and he will give peace that guards your heart and mental powers.
- Finally, brothers, whatever things are true, whatever things are of serious concern, whatever things are righteous, whatever things are chaste, whatever things are lovable, whatever things are well spoken of, whatever virtue there is and whatever praiseworthy thing there is, continue considering these things. (Philippians 4:8)
- Consider at all times the right and praiseworthy things.
- " Highlights Of Philippians
- A letter reflecting the special bond of love that existed between Paul and the Christians in Philippi.
- Written by Paul about 60-61 C.E. while in prison in Rome.
- Paul's love for the brothers and his appreciation for their generosity.
- Paul thanks God for the Philippians contribution to the furtherance of the Good News. Out of deep affection for them, he prays that their love increase and that they make sure of the more important things I thank my God always upon every remembrance of you.
- In every supplication of mine for all of you, as I offer my supplication with joy. (Philippians 1:3)
- Because of the contribution you have made to the Good News from the first day until this moment. (Philippians 1:5)
- For I am confident of this very thing, that he who started a good work in you will carry it to completion until the day of Jesus Christ.
- For I am confident of this very thing, that he who started a good work in you will carry it to completion until the day of Jesus Christ. (Philippians 1:6)
- It is altogether right for me to think this regarding all of you, on

account of my having you in my heart, all of you being sharers with me in the undeserved kindness, both in my prison bonds and in the defending and legally establishing of the Good News. (Philippians 1:7)

- For God is my witness of how I am yearning for all of you in such tender affection as Christ Jesus has. (Philippians 1:8)
- And this is what I continue praying, that your love may abound yet more and more with accurate knowledge and full discernment. (Philippians 1:9)
- That you may make sure of the more important things, so that you may be flawless and not be stumbling others up to the day of Christ. (Philippians 1:10)
- And may be filled with righteous fruit, which is through Jesus Christ, to God's glory and praise. (Philippians 1:11)
- Paul is concerned about the Philippians welfare, he hopes to send them Timothy, whom he highly recommends, he is confident that he himself will also visit them shortly.
- For my part I am hoping in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you shortly, that I may be a cheerful soul when I get to know about the things pertaining to you. (Philippians 2:19)
- For I have no one else of a disposition like his who will genuinely care for the things pertaining to you. (Philippians 2:20)
- For all the others are seeking their own interests, not those of Christ Jesus. (Philippians 2:21)
- But you know the proof he gave of himself, that like a child with a father he slaved with me in furtherance of the Good News. (Philippians 2:22)
- This, therefore, is the man I am hoping to send just as soon as I have seen how things stand concerning me. (Philippians 2:23)
- Indeed, I am confident in the Lord that I myself shall also come shortly. (Philippians 2:24)

- To reassure the brothers regarding Epaphroditus, whom the Philippians had heard was very sick, Paul is sending them this loyal servant whom they had assigned to minister to Paul.
- However, I consider it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, but your envoy and private servant for my need. (Philippians 2:25)
- Since he is longing to see all of you and is depressed because you heard he had fallen sick. (Philippians 2:26)
- Yes, indeed, he fell sick nearly to the point of death, but God had mercy on him, in fact, not only on him, but also on me, that I should not get grief upon grief. (Philippians 2:27)
- Therefore with the greater haste I am sending him, that on seeing him you may rejoice again and I may be the more free from grief. (Philippians 2:28)
- Therefore give him the customary welcome in the Lord with all joy, and keep holding men of that sort dear. (Philippians 2:29)
- Because on account of the Lords work he came quite near to death, exposing his soul to danger, that he might fully make up for your not being here to render private service to me. (Philippians 2:30)
- Although Paul is self-sufficient in all circumstances thanks to the strength granted to him from above, he highly commends the Philippians for their generosity.
- I do rejoice greatly in the Lord that now at last you have revived your thinking in my behalf, to which you were really giving thought, but you lacked opportunity. (Philippians 4:10)
- Not that I am speaking with regard to being in want, for I have learned, in whatever circumstances I am, to be self-sufficient. (Philippians 4:11)
- I know indeed how to be low on provisions, I know indeed how to have an abundance. In everything and in all circumstances I have learned the secret of both how to be full and how to hunger, both how to have an abundance and how to suffer want. (Philippians 4:12)

- For all things I have the strength by virtue of him who imparts power to me. (Philippians 4:13)
- Nevertheless, you acted well in becoming sharers with me in my tribulation. (Philippians 4:14)
- In fact, you Philippians, also know that at the start of declaring the Good News, when I departed from Macedonia, not a congregation took a share with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you alone. (Philippians 4:15)
- Because, even in Thessalonica, you sent something to me both once and a second time for my need. (Philippians 4:16)
- Not that I am earnestly seeking the gift, but that I am earnestly seeking the fruitage that brings more credit to your account. (Philippians 4:17)
- However, I have all things in full and have an abundance. I am filled, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the things from you, a sweet-smelling odor, an acceptable sacrifice, well-pleasing to God. (Philippians 4:18)
- In turn, my God will fully supply all your need to the extent of his riches in glory by means of Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:19)

" Results Of Paul's Imprisonment

- Paul's imprisonment has led to the advancement of the Good News, his situation is well known among the Praetorian Guard, and most of the brothers are showing more courage to speak the word of God fearlessly.
- Now I desire you to know, brothers, that my affairs have turned out for the advancement of the Good News rather than otherwise. (Philippians 1:12)
- So that my bonds have become public knowledge in association with Christ among all the Praetorian Guard and all the rest. (Philippians 1:13)
- And most of the brothers in the Lord, feeling confidence by reason of my prison bonds, are showing all the more courage to

speak the word of God fearlessly. (Philippians 1:14)

- Some are preaching with a good motive, others with a bad motive either way, Christ is being publicized, whether Paul lives or dies, he will magnify Christ, but he feels he will live so as to minister to the Philippians.
- True, some are preaching the Christ through envy and rivalry, but others also through goodwill. (Philippians 1:15)
- The latter are publicizing the Christ out of love, for they know I am set here for the defense of the Good News. (Philippians 1:16)
- But the former do it out of contentiousness, not with a pure motive, for they are supposing to stir up tribulation for me in my prison bonds. (Philippians 1:17)
- What then? Nothing, except that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is being publicized, and in this I rejoice. In fact, I will also keep on rejoicing. (Philippians 1:18)
- For I know this will result in my salvation through your supplication and a supply of the spirit of Jesus Christ. (Philippians 1:19)
- In harmony with my eager expectation and hope that I shall not be ashamed in any respect, but that in all freeness of speech Christ will, as always before, so now be magnified by means of my body, whether through life or through death. (Philippians 1:20)
- For in my case to live is Christ, and to die, gain. (Philippians 1:21)
- Now if it be to live on in the flesh, this is a fruitage of my work, and yet which thing to select I do not make known. (Philippians 1:22)
- I am under pressure from these two things, but what I do desire is the releasing and the being with Christ, for this, to be sure, is far better. (Philippians 1:23)
- However, for me to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. (Philippians 1:24)

- So, being confident of this, I know I shall remain and shall abide with all of you for your advancement and the joy that belongs to your faith. (Philippians 1:25)
- So that your exultation may overflow in Christ Jesus by reason of me through my presence again with you. (Philippians 1:26)
- Upbuilding counsel regarding attitude and conduct.
- Behave in a manner worthy of the Good News, not being frightened by enemies, opponents will be destroyed, whereas believers will gain salvation.
- Only behave in a manner worthy of the Good News about the Christ, in order, that, whether I come and see you or be absent, I may hear about the things which concern you, that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one soul striving side by side for the faith of the Good News. (Philippians 1:27)
- And in no respect being frightened by your opponents. This very thing is a proof of destruction for them, but of salvation for you, and this indication is from God. (Philippians 1:28)
- Because to you the privilege was given in behalf of Christ, not only to put your faith in him, but also to suffer in his behalf. (Philippians 1:29)
- For you have the same struggle as you saw in my case and as you now hear about in my case. (Philippians 1:30)
- Display the same mental attitude as Christ by manifesting humility and not being self-seeking.
- If, then, there is any encouragement in Christ, if any consolation of love, if any sharing of spirit, if any tender affections and compassions. (Philippians 2:1)
- Make my joy full in that you are of the same mind and have the same love, being joined together in soul, holding the one thought in mind. (Philippians 2:2)
- Doing nothing out of contentiousness or out of egotism, but with lowliness of mind considering that the others are superior to you. (Philippians 2:3)

- Keeping an eye, not in personal interest upon just your own matters, but also in personal interest upon those of the others. (Philippians 2:4)
- Keep this mental attitude in you that was also in Christ Jesus.(Philippians 2:5)
- Who, although he was existing in God's form, gave no consideration to a seizure, namely, that he should be equal to God. (Philippians 2:6)
- No, but he emptied himself and took a slaves form and came to be in the likeness of men. (Philippians 2:7)
- More than that, when he found himself in fashion as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient as far as death, yes, death on a torture stake. (Philippians 2:8)
- For this very reason also God exalted him to a superior position and kindly gave him the name that is above every other name. (Philippians 2:9)
- So that in the name of Jesus every knee should bend of those in heaven and those on earth and those under the ground. (Philippians 2:10)
- And every tongue should openly acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:11)
- As blameless children, shine as illuminators among a twisted generation, keeping a tight grip on the word of life.
- Consequently, my beloved ones, in the way that you have always obeyed, not during my presence only, but now much more readily during my absence, keep working out your own salvation with fear and trembling. (Philippians 2:12)
- For God is the one that, for the sake of his good pleasure, is acting within you in order for you both to will and to act. (Philippians 2:13)
- Keep doing all things free from murmurings and arguments.(Philippians 2:14)

- That you may come to be blameless and innocent, children of God without a blemish in among a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you are shining as illuminators in the world. (Philippians 2:15)
- Keeping a tight grip on the word of life, that I may have cause for exultation in Christ's day, that I did not run in vain or work hard in vain. (Philippians 2:16)
- Guard against those promoting circumcision, a Christian's confidence is in Christ, not in fleshly circumcision.
- Finally, my brothers, continue rejoicing in the Lord. To be writing the same things to you is not troublesome for me, but it is of safety to you. (Philippians 3:1)
- Look out for the dogs, look out for the workers of injury, look out for those who mutilate the flesh. (Philippians 3:2)
- For we are those with the real circumcision, who are rendering sacred service by God's spirit and have our boasting in Christ Jesus and do not have our confidence in the flesh. (Philippians 3:3)
- Paul has the highest standing when it comes to fleshly qualifications, yet he considers all of this as refuse on account of the excelling value of the knowledge of Christ, he is pursuing down toward the prize and urges others to do likewise.
- Though I, if anyone, do have grounds for confidence also in the flesh. If any other man thinks he has grounds for confidence in the flesh, I the more so. (Philippians 3:4)
- Circumcised the eighth day, out of the family stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born from Hebrews, as respects law, a Pharisee. (Philippians 3:5)
- As respects zeal, persecuting the congregation, as respects righteousness that is by means of Law, one who proved himself blameless. (Philippians 3:6)
- Yet what things were gains to me, these I have considered loss on account of the Christ. (Philippians 3:7)

- Why, for that matter, I do indeed also consider all things to be loss on account of the excelling value of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord. On account of him I have taken the loss of all things and I consider them as a lot of refuse, that I may gain Christ. (Philippians 3:8)
- And be found in union with him, having, not my own righteousness, which results from law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness that issues from God on the basis of faith. (Philippians 3:9)
- So as to know him and the power of his resurrection and a sharing in his sufferings, submitting myself to a death like his. (Philippians 3:10)
- To see if I may by any means attain to the earlier resurrection from the dead. (Philippians 3:11)
- Not that I have already received it or am already made perfect,
 but I am pursuing to see if I may also lay hold on that for which I have also been laid hold on by Christ Jesus. (Philippians 3:12)
- Brothers, I do not yet consider myself as having laid hold on it, but there is one thing about it. Forgetting the things behind and stretching forward to the things ahead. (Philippians 3:13)
- I am pursuing down toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God by means of Christ Jesus. (Philippians 3:14)
- Let us, then, as many of us as are mature, be of this mental attitude, and if you are mentally inclined otherwise in any respect, God will reveal the above attitude to you. (Philippians 3:15)
- At any rate, to what extent we have made progress, let us go on walking orderly in this same routine. (Philippians 3:16)
- Unitedly become imitators of me, brothers, and keep your eye on those who are walking in a way that accords with the example you have in us. (Philippians 3:17)
- For there are many, I used to mention them often but now I mention them also with weeping, who are walking as the

enemies of the torture stake of the Christ. (Philippians 3:18)

- And their finish is destruction, and their god is their belly, and their glory consists in their shame, and they have their minds upon things on the earth. (Philippians 3:19)
- As for us, our citizenship exists in the heavens, from which place also we are eagerly waiting for a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. (Philippians 3:20)
- Who will refashion our humiliated body to be conformed to his glorious body according to the operation of the power that he has, even to subject all things to himself. (Philippians 3:21)
- Continue rejoicing in the Lord, manifest reasonableness and commit anxieties to God in prayer, fill the mind with wholesome thoughts.
- Always rejoice in the Lord. Once more I will say; Rejoice! (Philippians 4:4)
- Let your reasonableness become known to all men. The Lord is near. (Philippians 4:5)
- Do not be anxious over anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication along with thanksgiving let your petitions be made known to God. (Philippians 4:6)
- And the peace of God that excels all thought will guard your hearts and your mental powers by means of Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:7)
- Finally, brothers, whatever things are true, whatever things are of serious concern, whatever things are righteous, whatever things are chaste, whatever things are lovable, whatever things are well spoken of, whatever virtue there is and whatever praiseworthy thing there is, continue considering these things. (Philippians 4:8)
- The things that you learned as well as accepted and heard and saw in connection with me, practice these, and the God of peace will be with you. (Philippians 4:9)